

Sustainability Committee
Minutes of Meeting
July 8, 2015

Present: Lynn Stoddard (chair), Bill Lennon, Shawn Santasiere, Joyce & George Rawitscher, Virginia Walton (staff)

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by Stoddard.

Approval of the June 10, 2015 meeting minutes was deferred until there is a quorum. Walton noted that Vera Ward's resignation was missing from the draft minutes and will be added.

Walton reported that Don Hoyle recently expressed interest in serving on the climate action task force. He and the names of the nine other interested individuals have been passed along to the Town Council. Town Council will make a decision on the configuration of the task force (which is currently 8 members). In the meantime, Walton is working on arranging a first meeting, which may be in the end of July.

Members discussed goals for the next year. Some preliminary ideas included, working closely with the climate task force, supporting the efforts of Bike Mansfield to make Mansfield a bike friendly community, initiating sustainable landscaping projects around the Town Hall/Community Center, addressing critical issues as they come up such as weighing in on the four corners EIE, highlighting sustainable items in the Mansfield Tomorrow Plan once it adopted and including an element of publicity with any sustainability projects that are worked on. Goals will be discussed further at the next meeting.

Walton reported, as a follow-up to the June meeting, that the \$13,500 reward money earned from CT Clean Energy Communities must be used for energy efficiency or renewable energy projects. In meeting with the maintenance staff, it was suggested that the greatest need is to replace inefficient air conditioning units at the library and two schools. The library would be replaced with an energy efficient split heat pump and the schools with efficient roof top air conditioning. Members found this a good use of the funds. Stoddard suggested asking the Eversource account representative about incentives from Energize CT to further reduce the cost of the replacements.

It was decided to skip the August meeting. The next meeting will be September 9, 2015.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:28 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia Walton